

REMARKS

This is in response to the Office Action dated August 17, 2005. Claims 1-2 and 4-8 are pending.

The title has been amended as suggested by the Examiner. Moreover, the formality objection of claim 4 has been addressed and resolved by the change to claim 4 above.

Claim 1 stands rejected under 35 U.S.C. Section 102(b) as being allegedly anticipated by Nagata (US 6,342,931). This Section 102(b) rejection is respectfully traversed for at least the following reasons.

Claim 1 as amended requires that “a terminal portion of the spare wiring is composed of first and second portions that are separated and electrically isolated from each other.” For example and without limitation, Figs. 2-3 illustrate first and second portions 51a, 51b of a terminal portion of a spare wiring being electrically isolated from each other. This is advantageous, for example and without limitation, in that it is possible to prevent or reduce electrostatic charge entering through the first portion 51a from flowing through to the second portion 51b and a spare wiring 50 connected thereto. In the example case which necessitates the spare wiring to function, the first portion 51a may be electrically connected to the second portion 51b.

Nagata fails to disclose or suggest the aforesaid underlined and quoted portion of claim 1. In particular, in Fig. 9 of Nagata the different terminal portions of spare wirings 57 are not electrically isolated from one another, thereby teaching directly away from the invention of claim 1. It will be appreciated that Nagata is entirely unrelated to the invention of claim 1 in at least this respect.

Claim 6 requires “*an open space is formed in the tape carrier package, and a part of the first portion, a portion separating the first and second portions, and a part of the second portion are exposed to external atmosphere via the open space.*” For example and without limitation, Fig. 3 illustrates an open space 31 formed in a tape carrier package, and parts of the first and second portions 51a, 51b of the spare wiring are exposed to external atmosphere via the open space 31. The cited art fails to disclose or suggest these features of claim 6.

Claim 7 requires “a terminal portion of the spare wiring comprises first and second portions that are electrically insulated from one another.” Nagata fails to disclose or suggest this requirement of claim 7.

Claim 8 requires “an open space is formed in the tape carrier package; and a part of the first portion, an area separating the first and second portions, and a part of the second portion are exposed to external atmosphere via the open space.” Again, Nagata fails to disclose or suggest these features of claim 8.

It is respectfully requested that all rejections be withdrawn. All claims are in condition for allowance. If any minor matter remains to be resolved, the Examiner is invited to telephone the undersigned with regard to the same.

NAGATA
Appl. No. 10/799,635

Respectfully submitted,

NIXON & VANDERHYTE P.C.

By: _____

Joseph A. Rhoa
Reg. No. 37,515

JAR:caj
901 North Glebe Road, 11th Floor
Arlington, VA 22203-1808
Telephone: (703) 816-4000
Facsimile: (703) 816-4100